

From the American Community Survey: 1999

Population and Housing Profile: Yakima County, Washington

NOTES: The population estimates in this profile are for people living in households and group quarters.

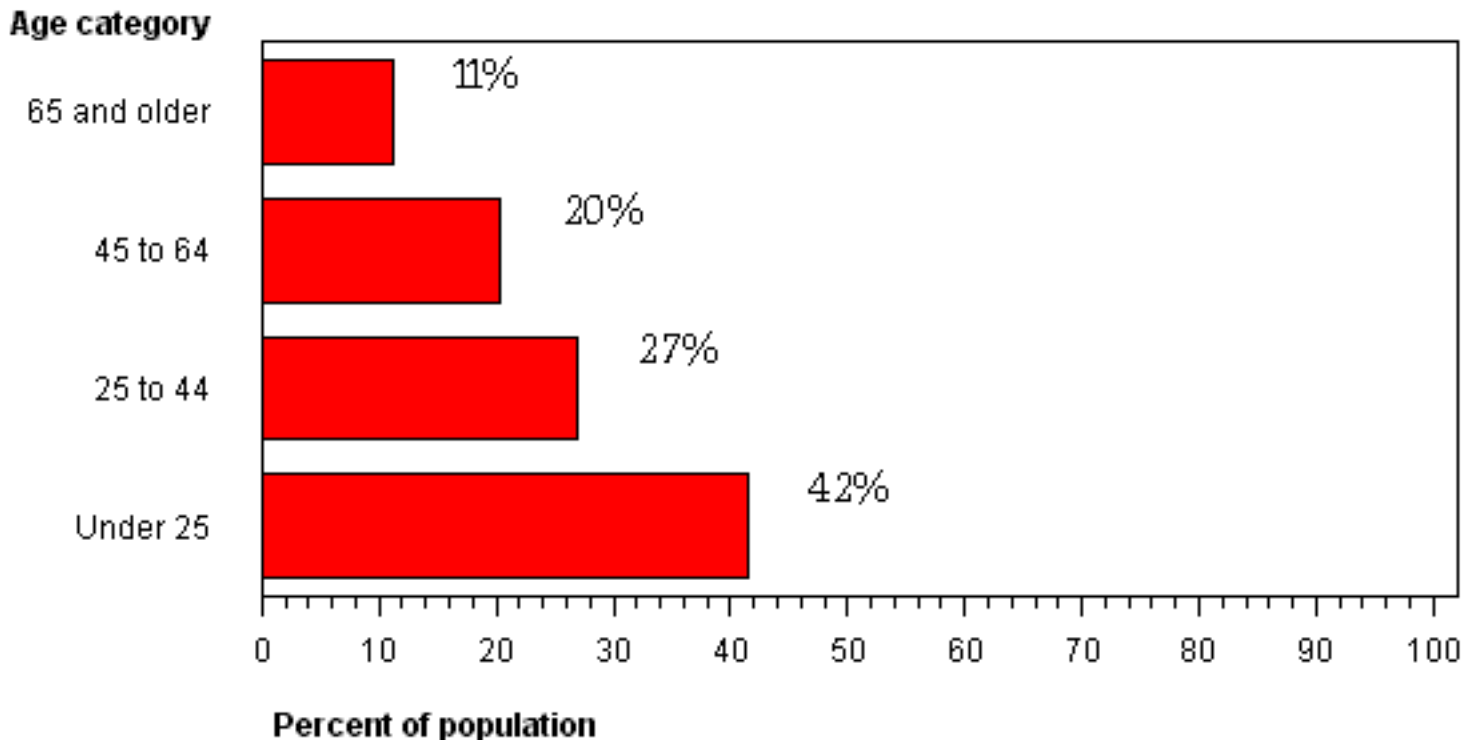
In the narrative profile below, if one sample estimate is larger than another, it does not necessarily mean that the same holds for their true values for the entire population. These estimates are derived from a sample of housing units and measure the true values with a degree of uncertainty. In the Profiles found at www.census.gov/acs/www/index_c.htm, this uncertainty is represented by the 90 percent confidence interval given for each estimate. For further information on confidence intervals see the Accuracy of the Data documents at www.census.gov/acs/www/index_b.htm.

Caution should be used when comparing data by race from previous years with those for 1999 due to the Census Bureau's implementation of the October 1997 revised standards for data on race and ethnicity. For the 1999 data, respondents may report one or more races and there are seven (American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, White, some other race, and two or more races) instead of five racial tabulation categories. The two or more races category includes all respondents who reported more than one race. See the methodology section for more details regarding these changes.

These data are preliminary and should not be used for official purposes.

POPULATION OF Yakima County: In 1999, Yakima County had a population of 220,785. The median age was 31.9 years. Thirty-two percent were under 18 years and 11 percent were 65 or older. There was an equal amount of women and men.

The Age Distribution of People in Yakima County, Washington in 1999



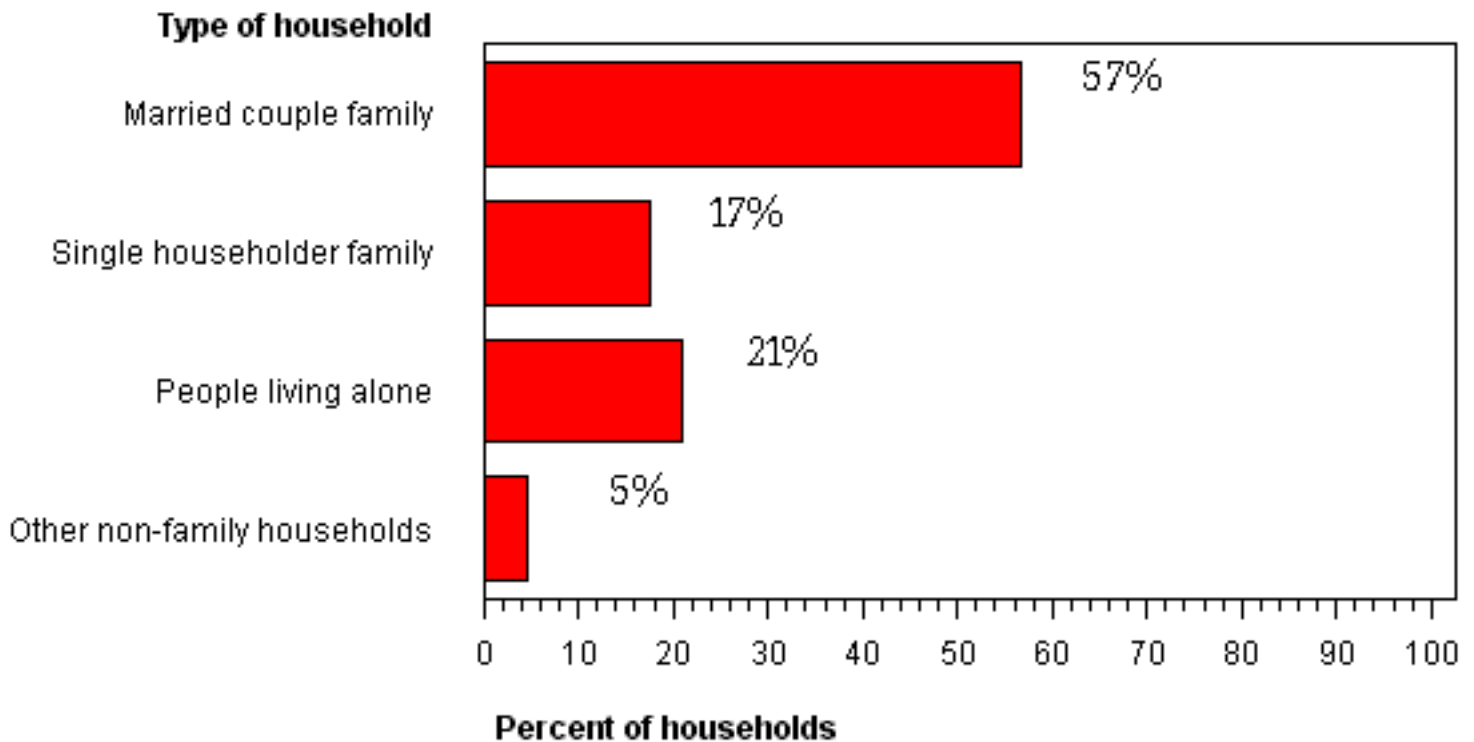
Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 1999

For people reporting one race, 60 percent of the people in Yakima County were White, not of Hispanic origin; 1 percent were Black or African American, 5 percent were American Indian and Alaska Native, 1 percent were Asian, and less than 0.5 percent were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Five percent reported two or more races. Thirty-three percent of the people of Yakima County were of Hispanic origin. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES: In 1999 there were 72,518 households in Yakima County. The average household size was 2.99 people.

Families made up 74 percent of the households in Yakima County that year. This figure includes both married couple families (57 percent) and other families with no spouse present (17 percent). Non-family households made up 26 percent of all households in Yakima County. Most of the non-family households were people living alone, but some were people living in households maintained by non-relatives.

The Types of Households in Yakima County, Washington in 1999



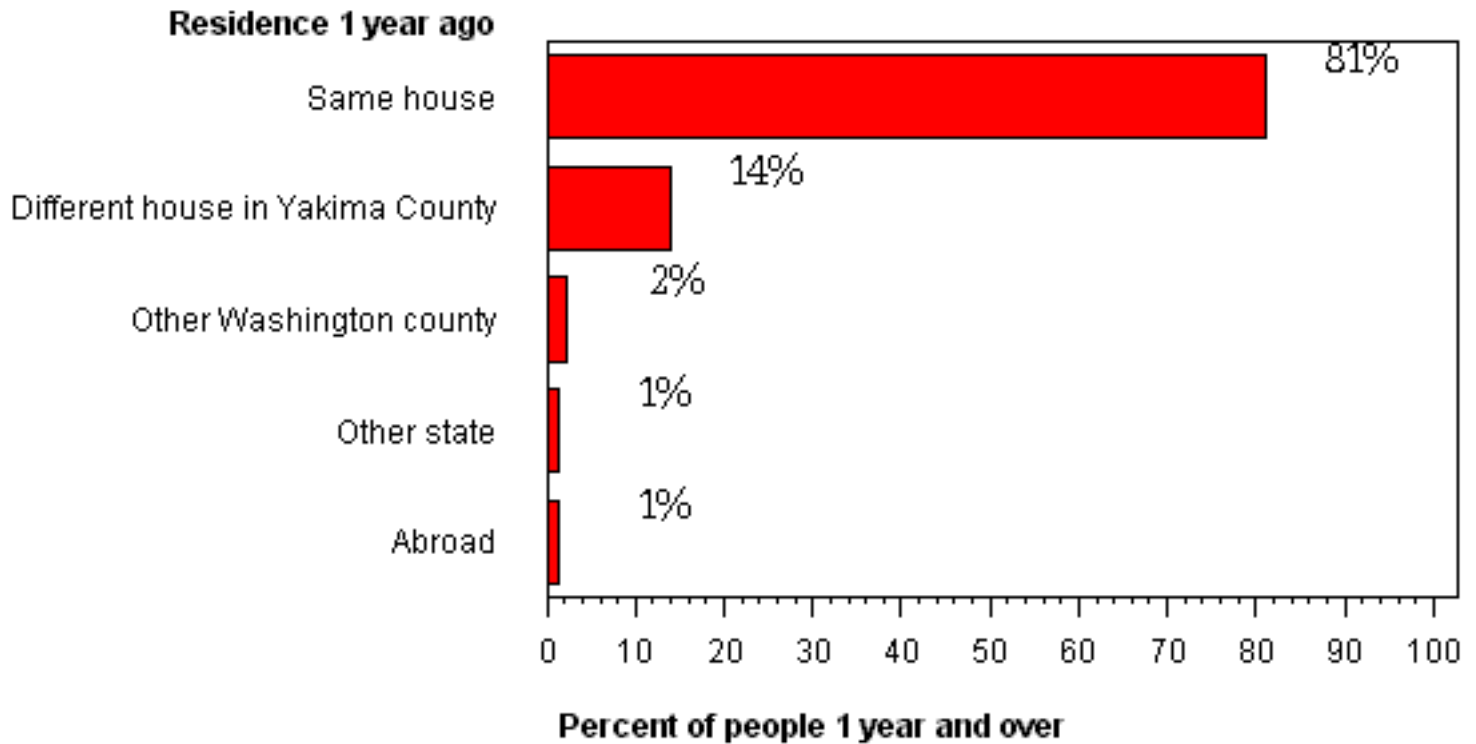
Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 1999

NATIVITY AND LANGUAGE: Sixteen percent of the people living in Yakima County in 1999 were foreign born. Eighty-four percent were native born, including 55 percent who were born in the State of Washington.

Among people at least five years old living in Yakima County in 1999, 60,366 spoke a language other than English at home. Of this group, 92 percent spoke Spanish, and 8 percent spoke some other language; 58 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well".

GEOGRAPHIC MOBILITY: In 1999, 81 percent of the people one year or older living in Yakima County were living in the same house one year earlier; 14 percent had moved during the past year from another house in the same county, 2 percent from another Washington county, 1 percent from another state, and 1 percent from abroad.

Geographic Mobility of Residents of Yakima County, Washington in 1999

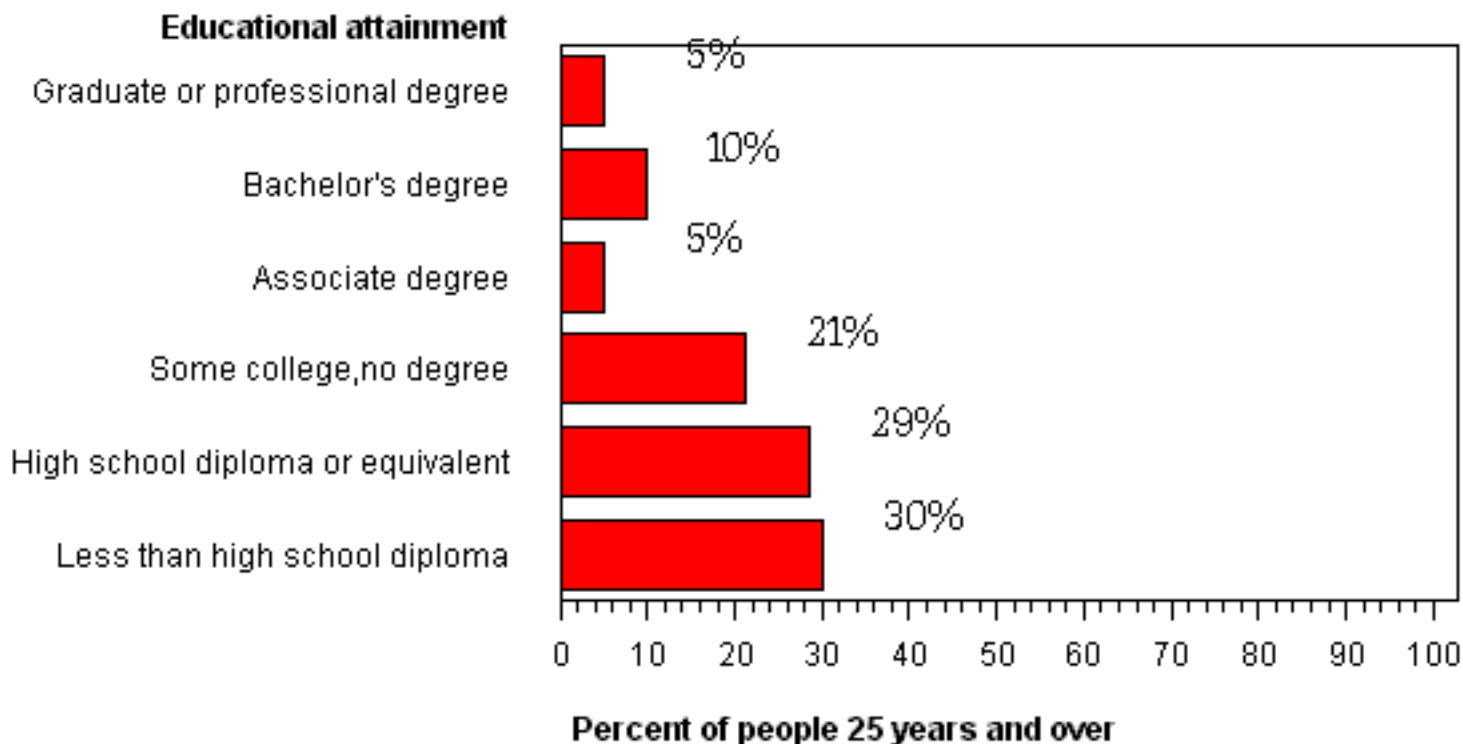


Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 1999

EDUCATION: In 1999, 70 percent of people at least 25 years old had at least graduated from high school and 15 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. Among people 16 to 19 years old, 14 percent were dropouts: They were not enrolled in school and had not graduated from high school.

The total school enrollment in Yakima County was 62,179 in 1999. Preprimary school enrollment was 6,509 and 48,454 children were enrolled in elementary or high school. College enrollment was 7,216.

The Educational Attainment of People in Yakima County, Washington in 1999



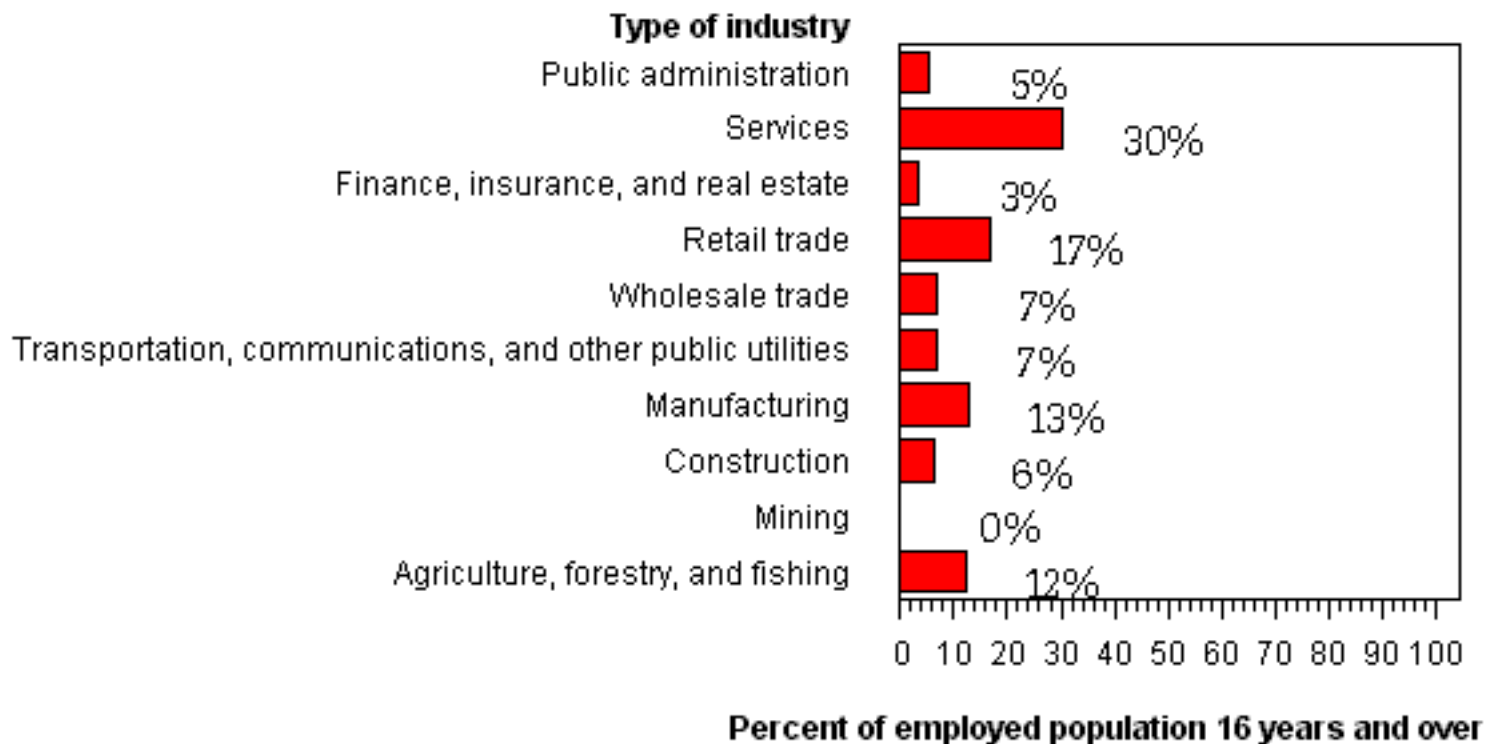
Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 1999

DISABILITY: In Yakima County, among people at least five years old in 1999, 18 percent had a disability. The likelihood of having one or more functional limitations varied by age - from 8 percent of people 5 to 20 years old, to 18 percent of people 21 to 64 years old, to 46 percent of those 65 and older.

INDUSTRIES, OCCUPATIONS AND TYPE OF EMPLOYER: In 1999, for the employed population 16 and older, the leading industries in Yakima County were Services, 30 percent, and Retail trade, 17 percent.

Among the most common occupations were: Technical, sales, and administrative support occupations, 24 percent; Managerial and professional specialty occupations, 22 percent; Operators, fabricators, and laborers, 17 percent; Service occupations, 13 percent; and Farming, forestry, and fishing occupations, 13 percent. Seventy-three percent of the people in the employed labor force were Private wage and salary workers; 15 percent were Federal, state, or local government workers; and 10 percent were Self-employed.

Employment by Industry in Yakima County, Washington in 1999



Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 1999

TRAVEL TO WORK: Seventy-seven percent of Yakima County workers drove to work alone in 1999 and 15 percent car- or van-pooled. On average it took them 19 minutes to get to work.

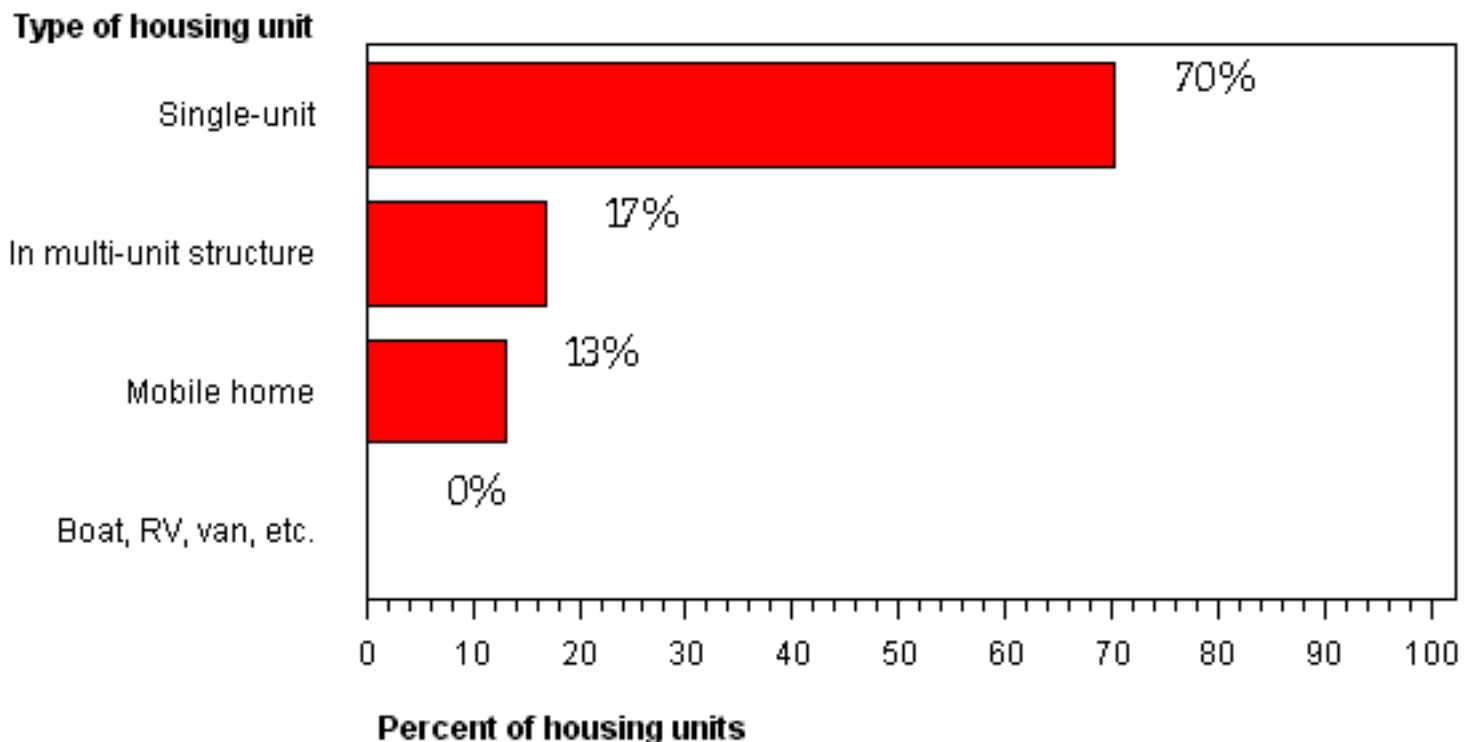
INCOME: The median income of households in Yakima County was \$34,901. Eighty-one percent of the households received earnings and 16 percent received retirement income other than Social Security. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.

POVERTY AND PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS: In 1999, 14 percent of all families had incomes below the poverty level, compared with 42 percent of families with a female householder and no spouse present.

Twenty-five percent of the households in Yakima County received means-tested public assistance or noncash benefits. Twenty-six percent of the households received Social Security. The average income from Social Security was \$11,103.

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS: In 1999, Yakima County had a total of 76,909 housing units. Housing in Yakima County was spread among 53,978 single-family homes (detached or attached), 9,976 mobile homes, and 12,873 units in multi-unit structures.

The Types of Housing Units in Yakima County, Washington in 1999



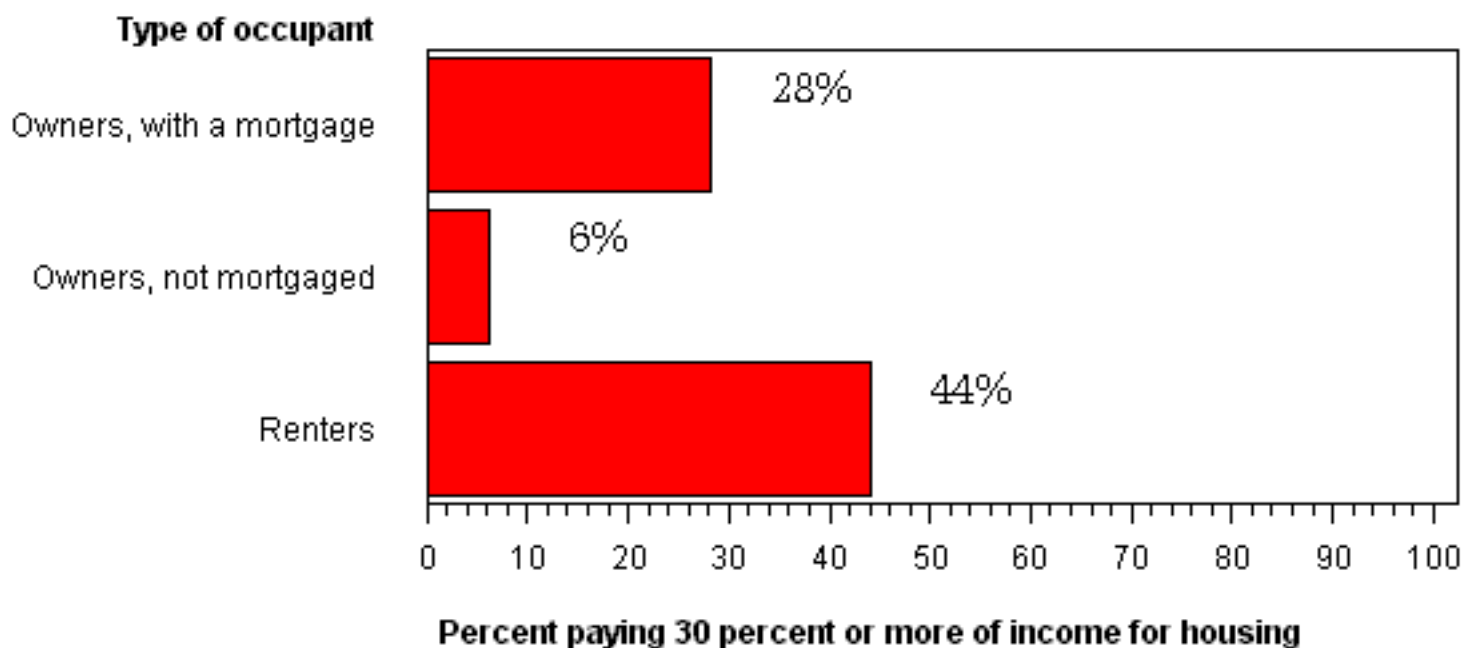
Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 1999

In 1999, 6 percent of the housing units in Yakima County were vacant. Twelve percent of the vacant units were for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. Fifteen percent of the housing units were built since 1990. One hundred percent of Yakima County housing units had complete plumbing and 99 percent had complete kitchen facilities.

CHARACTERISTICS OF OCCUPANTS: The occupied units consisted of 47,741 that were owned by residents and 24,777 that were rented. Three percent of the households occupying these units reported not having telephone service in their home and 6 percent did not have access to a car, truck, or van for private use. Multi-vehicle households were not rare. Forty percent had two vehicles and another 27 percent had three or more.

HOUSING COSTS: Forty percent of owners with mortgages in Yakima County spent less than 20 percent of their household income on housing; 28 percent spent 30 percent or more on housing. Among renters, 26 percent spent less than 20 percent of their household income on rent and 44 percent spent 30 percent or more on rent. The median gross rent was \$539 per month.

Occupants with a Housing Cost Burden in Yakima County, Washington in 1999



Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 1999